

Workshop Agenda
Distributed Resource Interconnection Workshop
hosted by
The Staff of the Illinois Commerce Commission
at the
Illinois Historic Preservation Agency
313 South Sixth Street
Springfield, IL 62701
Great Room – First Floor
March 12, 2004, 10 AM to 5 PM

10:00 – 10:15 Introduction

Policy Section

10:15 – 10:30 Jurisdiction

10:30 – 11:15 The Interconnection Process

Does the draft rule provide enough time to complete each step in the interconnection process? Should various parts of the studies be combined?

11:15 – 12:00 Interconnection Fees

Is it reasonable to have no fee for interconnections of generators meeting certain size and other requirements? How should rates for the initial review be differentiated? At what stage, if at all, does it become difficult to determine the average cost of an interconnection study? What rates are stated and when are individual cost estimates relied upon in other jurisdictions?

12:00 – 1:00 Break for Lunch (Lunch will not be provided)

1:00 – 1:25 Dispute Resolution

Is it possible to establish an independent review board without any funding? What about the Commission's complaint process? Is the Commission's complaint process sufficient to handle the types of complaints that would arise from interconnection disputes? Would a model similar to the JULIE model be acceptable?

1:25 – 1:50 Pre-certification

What benefits could be derived from a pre-certification process? Is there an entity that pre-certifies or tests DG units in a manner that all parties would find acceptable? Could the Commission adopt a rule that relies on an independently functioning pre-certification entity in other jurisdictions? Would the rule need to be restructured to provide for a smoother interconnection process for pre-certified DG units? Could an independent pre-certification entity be formed without public funding?

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(Continued)

Technical Section

1:50 – 2:10 Size Limitations

Should the rule be limited to generators of a certain size? IEEE1547 applies to generators of 0 MW or less. What rules, regulations, codes, etc. are relied upon for generators larger than 10 MW?

2:10 – 3:00 Size and Characteristics of the Distributed Resource

Should there be different sets of requirements for differently sized systems? Or systems that incorporate 'reverse power protection'? Or systems that are on feeders with different levels of spare capacity? Or systems that are at facilities where the minimum site load substantially exceeds the capacity of the on-site DG?

3:00 – 3:20 Indicated Purpose of the Distributed Resource

Should the interconnection provider rely on the interconnection customer's "initial indicated purpose" to perform the feasibility impact study (See Section XXX.110(d)) rather than a number of different scenarios?

3:20 – 3:50 Metering Requirements

What types of metering requirements are necessary? What are the current utility policies and practices for metering distributed generation interconnection? Are the charges for meters used to measure the use of customer with a distributed resource included in utility tariffs?

3:50 – 4:30 Secondary Networks

What is the universe of network interconnections in Illinois? What are the major utility concerns with network interconnections? Can the use of "Reverse Power Protection" allay these concerns? Can the use of certain equipment configurations allay these concerns? Is there precedent elsewhere in the country?

4:30 – 5:00 Miscellaneous

Should standard interconnect designs and equipment specifications be included in the rule? Should the rule address interconnection of back-up generators? Other issues if time permits.